

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1-45; and

Please ADD claims 46-47 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting emergency calls in a mobile communications network, the method comprising:

supporting emergency calls in a mobile communications network;

a.receiving a network access from a user equipment;

b.receiving network access information relating to said user equipment, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access;

c.selectively controlling access to the network in dependence on said network access information; and

d.disabling the step of selectively controlling access to the network for an emergency call network access.

2. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving step includes receiving the network access information that comprises network area access information.

3. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 1, further including:

~~the step of determining if whether said network access comprises an emergency call.~~

4. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 3, wherein the ~~step of determining if whether said network access is for an emergency call includes receiving an indication of the type of call.~~

5. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 4, further ~~including comprising: the step of~~

~~receiving the indication of the type of network access from the user equipment or from the network.~~

6. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said selectively controlling step~~includes selectively controlling the network which comprises an access network and a core network.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 6, wherein the steps of controlling and the disabling the access to the network are performed in the access network.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 6, further comprising: determining ifwhether said network access is an emergency call in dependence on receipt of an indication of the type of network access from the core network.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
~~the step of~~

activating the ~~step of~~ disabling the ~~step of~~ selectively controlling access to the network, wherein said activating ~~step activates~~ comprises activating on receipt of the indication of the type of network access being the emergency call.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
detecting a network access initiation, and,
responsive thereto, disabling the ~~step of~~ selectively controlling access to the network.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method according to claim 10, wherein said disabling step includes disabling for a predetermined time period.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method according to claim 10, further comprising: the step of

detecting establishment of a radio access bearer, and
responsive thereto, activating the step of disabling the step of selectively controlling access to the network for an emergency call network access.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method according to claim 12, further comprising:

activating the step of disabling the step of selectively controlling access to the network only for the emergency call network access associated with that radio access bearer.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ method according to claim 10, further comprising:

terminating said disabling step responsive to a control signal.

15. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 6, further comprising:

receiving wherein the network access information is received from the core network.

16. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 1, further comprising:

the step of

detecting termination of an emergency call; and,

responsive thereto, the step of enabling the means for selectively controlling access to the network.

17. (Currently Amended) AThe method according to claim 1, further comprising:

the step of

providing performing the method in a 3GPP third generation partnership project mobile communication system.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodied on a computer readable medium including computer program code, the computer program code adapted configured to perform a method, the method comprising the steps of:

a.—receiving a network access from a user equipment;

b.—receiving network access information relating to said user equipment, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access;

b.—selectively controlling access to the network in dependence on said network access information; and

e.—disabling the step of selectively controlling access to the network for an emergency call network access.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for supporting emergency calls in a mobile communications network, the computer program product adapted configured when executed on a computer to perform steps, ~~the steps comprising:~~

receiving a network access from a user equipment, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access;

receiving network access information relating to said user equipment;

selectively controlling access to the network according to said network access information; and

disabling the step of selectively controlling access to the network for an emergency call network access.

20. (Currently Amended) A network element ~~for enabling emergency calls in a network~~, comprising:

- a.a network access request receiving means for receiving unit configured to receive a network access request from a user equipment in a network;
- b.a network access information receiving means for receiving unit configured to receive network access information relating to said user equipment, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access;
- c.a selection means for unit configured to selectively controlling network access for the user equipment in dependence on said network access information; and
- d.a disabling means for disabling unit configured to disable the selection means unit for an emergency call network access.

21. (Currently Amended) AThe network element according to claim 20, wherein the network access information is shared network area access information.

22. (Currently Amended) AThe network element according to claim 20, ~~further comprising determining means for determining if~~wherein the network element is configured to determine whether said network access is an emergency call.

23. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 22, wherein
the determining means includes receiving means for receiving network element is
configured to receive an indication of a type of network access call.

24. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 23, wherein
the indication of the type of network access is configured to be received from the user
equipment or from the network.

25. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 20, wherein
the network comprises an access network and a core network.

26. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 25, wherein
the network element is in the access network comprises the network element.

27. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 24, wherein
the determining means network element is configured to determine if whether said
network access is the emergency call in dependence on receipt of the indication of the
type of network access from the core network.

28. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 24, further including activating means for activating wherein said network element is configured to activate the disabling means of the selective control responsive to receipt of the indication of the type of network access being the emergency call.

29. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 20, further comprising detecting means for detecting wherein said network element is configured to detect a network access initiation, and further disabling means responsive to said detecting means for disabling disable the step of selectively-selective controlling of access to the network responsive to said detecting.

30. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 29, further including a timer-means, wherein the network element is configured to said further disabling disable the selective control of access to the networkmeans is activated for a predetermined time period determined by said timer-means.

31. (Currently Amended) A-The network element according to claim 28, further comprising detecting means for detecting wherein said network element is configured to detect establishment of a radio access bearer, and activating means responsive thereto for activating activate the disabling means of the selective control in response thereto.

32. (Currently Amended) A The network element according to claim 25, wherein the network access information is configured to be received from the core network.

33. (Currently Amended) A The network element according to claim 20, further comprising detection means for detecting wherein said network element is configured to detect termination of an emergency call, and enabling means responsive thereto for enabling enable the selection means selective control of network access in response thereto.

34. (Currently Amended) A The network element according to claim 26, wherein the network element is a radio network controller of a radio access network.

35. (Currently Amended) A communication system, the system comprising:

an access network;

a core network; and

at least one user equipment for connection-configured to connect to the core network through the access network,

wherein the access network is comprisesconfigured to:

a.~~means for receiving~~receive a request for a network access from the user equipment,

b.~~means for receiving~~receive network access information relating to the user from the core network, ~~said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access,~~

c.~~means for selectively controlling~~ access to the core network for the user equipment in dependence on said network access information,

d.~~means for identifying~~ a request for an emergency call, and

e.~~means for disabling~~disable the ~~means for selectively controlling~~ of access to the network responsive to identification of the emergency call.

36. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 35, wherein the access network ~~further includes~~ means for identifying is configured to ~~identify~~ termination of the emergency call, and ~~means for enabling~~ enable the ~~means for~~ selectively controlling of access to the network responsive to termination of the emergency call.

37. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 35,

wherein the ~~means for identifying a request for the emergency access network call~~
comprises an input means for receiving an emergency call indicator from the user
equipment for identifying a request for the emergency call.

38. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim ~~36~~ 35,
wherein the ~~means for identifying a request for the emergency call-access network~~
comprises an input means for receiving an emergency call indicator from the core
network for identifying a request for the emergency call.

39. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 38,
wherein the access network ~~further comprises means for disabling is configured to~~
~~disable the means for selectively controlling of~~ access to the network on initiation of a
call.

40. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 39,
wherein ~~said means for the access network is configured so that the disabling of~~
~~the means for selectively controlling of~~ access to the network on initiation of the call is
activated for a predetermined time period.

41. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 39,
~~further comprising detecting means for detecting wherein the access network is~~
~~configured to detect~~ establishment of a radio access bearer, wherein said means for the
disabling of the means for selectively controlling of access to the network on initiation of
the call is activated until establishment of the radio access bearer.

42. (Currently Amended) The communications system according to claim 35,

wherein the access network~~further includes~~ is configured to:

~~detection means for detecting detect~~ termination of the emergency call,-;
and

~~enabling means responsive thereto for enabling enable~~ the selection means
selective control of access to the core network in response thereto.

43. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 35,

~~further including means for receiving wherein the access network is configured to~~
receive an indication of the emergency call on relocation of the call to the access
network.

44. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 35,

~~further including means for transmitting wherein the access network is configured to~~ an indication of the emergency call on relocation of the call to another access network.

45. (Currently Amended) The communication system of claim 35, further comprising a ~~3GPP third generation partnership project~~ mobile communication system.

46. (New) A network element, comprising:

network access request receiving means for receiving a network access request from a user equipment in a network;

network access information receiving means for receiving network access information relating to said user equipment, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access;

selection means for selectively controlling network access for the user equipment in dependence on said network access information; and

disabling means for disabling the selection means for an emergency call network access.

47. (New) A communication system, the system comprising:

an access network;

a core network; and

at least one user equipment for connection to the core network through the access network,

wherein the access network comprises

means for receiving a request for a network access from the user equipment,

means for receiving network access information relating to the user from the core network, said network access information indicating the areas the user equipment is allowed to access,

means for selectively controlling access to the core network for the user equipment in dependence on said network access information,

means for identifying a request for an emergency call, and

means for disabling the means for selectively controlling access to the network responsive to identification of the emergency call.